

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows, substituting any amended claim(s) for the corresponding
pending claim(s):

1. (Unchanged) A network for transporting data from an originating port to a
destination port comprising:
at least one controller, each controller including:
means for receiving data in time division multiplex (TDM) format from an
originating port, and
means for mapping the TDM data into fixed-length packets, wherein the TDM
data is written into a predetermined packet slot permanently assigned to the originating port;
and
a switching element connected to the one or more controllers including:
means for receiving the packets from the one or more controllers, and
means for separately switching the data in each packet slot received from the
controllers into a packet slot preassigned to the destination port.

1 2. (Unchanged) The network according to claim 1, further comprising a call server
2 connected to the switching element, including:

3 means for determining the destination port associated with the data in each incoming
4 packet slot based on a message transmitted from the controller to the switching element to the call
5 server.

1 3. (Unchanged) The network according to claim 2, wherein the call server further
2 comprises means for instructing the switching elements to switch the data in the packet slot into the
3 packet slot corresponding to the destination port.

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1 4. (Unchanged) A non-blocking network for transporting packet data from an
2 originating port to a destination port, including:

3 at least one controller connected to plural ports, wherein each controller includes an
4 interface to receive time division multiplex (TDM) data from an originating port and a state machine
5 to write the TDM data into a packet slot assigned to the originating port; and

6 a switching element including an interface to receive packet data from the one or
7 more controllers and a switching circuit to switch the TDM data in the packet slot assigned to the
8 originating port into an outgoing packet slot assigned to the destination port.

1 5. (Unchanged) A network according to claim 4, further comprising a call server to
2 determine the identity of the destination port.

1 6. (Unchanged) A network according to claim 5, wherein the call server further includes
2 a look-up table to identify the packet slot corresponding to the destination port.

1 7. (Unchanged) A network according to claim 6, wherein the call server further includes
2 an input/output controller to send a message to the switching element instructing the switching
3 element to switch the TDM data in the packet slot assigned to the originating port into the packet slot
4 assigned to the destination port.

1 8. (Unchanged) A node controller connected to plural access controllers, including:
2 means for receiving packet data from the plural access controllers, and
3 means for separately switching each slot in the packet data received from the plural
4 access controllers into a packet slot preassigned to the destination port.

1 9. (Unchanged) A switching element connected to one or more controllers and a call
2 server, including:

3 an interface to receive incoming ATM cells from the one or more controllers;
4 a microprocessor to receive octet switching directions from the call server on how to
5 individually switch each octet in the incoming ATM cells into outgoing ATM cells; and
6 a time switch processor to switch each octet in the incoming ATM cells into outgoing
7 ATM cells in response to the octet switching directions.

B1 1 10. (Unchanged) A switching element according to claim 9, further comprising:
2 a multiplexer to multiplex the incoming ATM cells into a single stream of ATM cells;
3 and
4 a de-multiplexer to de-multiplex the outgoing ATM cells into plural streams of ATM
5 cells.

1 11. (Unchanged) A switching element according to claim 9, wherein the microprocessor
2 further includes an address generator to generate read addresses in response to the octet switching
3 directions from the call server.

1 12. (Unchanged) A switching element according to claim 9, the time switch processor
2 further comprising:
3 a buffer; and
4 a time switch controller to sequentially write each octet in the incoming ATM cells
5 into the buffer and for reading the octets from the buffer using read addresses supplied by the
6 microprocessor.

B/ 1 13. (Unchanged) A method for establishing a switching path between an originating port
2 and a destination port in a network having a call server and plural controllers, the method comprising
3 the steps of:
4 receiving from the plural controllers packets in which data from the originating port
5 is located in a particular packet slot assigned to the originating port;
6 receiving a first message from the call server;
7 switching the data in the packet slot assigned to the originating port into a packet slot
8 assigned to the destination port in response to the first message from the call server.

1 14. (Unchanged) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of:
2 continuing to switch the data in the packet slot assigned to the originating port into
3 the packet slot assigned to the destination port until receipt of a second message from the call server.